

REMARKS

Claims 24, 30 and 31 are pending in the present application. Claims 24, 30 and 31 are cancelled herein without prejudice. New claims 32-36 are added herein. Support for new claim 32 can be found in the specification on page 5, lines 3-21 and elsewhere throughout the specification. Support for new claim 33 can be found in the claims as filed, on page 5, lines 3-21 of the specification and elsewhere throughout the specification. Support for new claims 34-36 can be found in the claims as filed, on page 5, lines 3-21 of the specification and in the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 of the specification. It is believed that no new matter is added by these new claims. Therefore, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, entry of the new claims and allowance of the claims to issue.

Applicants appreciate the opportunity to telephonically interview this case on August 18, 2003 with Examiner Foley. During this interview, the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph were discussed. It is believed that new claims 32-36, as presented herein, overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Thus, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections.

Pursuant to the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending application is believed to be warranted. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to directly contact the undersigned if such contact may enhance the efficient prosecution of the application to issue.

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This amount is believed to be correct; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.



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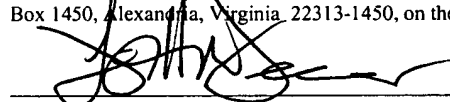
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Lizette M. Fernandez

8/25/03

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